

comprising means for converting the data relating to a selected matching item and its associated vendor to data relating to a different vendor and a corresponding item.--

--82. The electronic sourcing system of claim 79 further comprising means for determining whether a selected matching item is available in inventory.--

--83. The electronic sourcing system of claim 79 further comprising means for determining the applicable price of a selected matching item.--

--84. An electronic sourcing system comprising:

a database containing data relating to items associated with at least two vendors;

means for searching for matching items in the database;

means for building a requisition using data relating to selected matching items and their associated vendors;

means for processing the requisition to generate one or more purchase orders for the selected matching items.--

--85. An electronic sourcing system of claim 84 wherein the requisition includes matching items from at least two vendors.--

--86. The electronic sourcing system of claim 84 wherein the purchase orders include data relating to vendor catalog numbers.--

--87. The electronic sourcing system of claim 84 further comprising means for converting the data relating to a selected matching item and its associated vendor to data relating to a different vendor and a corresponding item.--

--88. The electronic sourcing system of claim 84 further comprising means for determining whether a selected matching item is available in inventory.

--89. The electronic sourcing system of claim 84 further comprising means for determining the applicable price of a selected matching item.--

~~9~~ --90. The electronic sourcing system of claim ~~87~~ further comprising means for determining whether a selected matching item is available in inventory.--

~~10~~ --91. The electronic sourcing system of claim ~~87~~ further comprising means for determining the applicable price of a selected matching item.--

*Sub B2*  
--92. An electronic sourcing system comprising:  
at least two vendor product catalogs containing data relating to items associated with the respective vendors;  
means for searching for matching items among the vendor product catalogs;  
means for building a requisition that includes a first matching item and a second matching item, each associated with a different vendor; and  
means for processing the requisition to generate purchase orders for the first and the second matching items.--

*12* --93. The electronic sourcing system of claim ~~92~~ wherein a first purchase order includes data relating to the first matching item.--

*13* --94. The electronic sourcing system of claim ~~93~~ wherein a second purchase order includes data relating to the second matching catalog item.--

*Sub B3*

--95. An electronic sourcing system comprising:

data relating to items associated with at least two vendors maintained so that selected data may be searched separately;

means for searching for matching items among the selected data;

means for building a requisition using data relating to selected matching items and their associated vendor(s); and

means for processing the requisition to generate purchase orders using data relating to the selected matching items and their associated vendor(s).--

--96. The electronic sourcing system of claim 95 wherein the purchase orders use data relating to at least two vendors.--

--97. The electronic sourcing system of claim 95 wherein the purchase orders use data relating to vendor catalog numbers.--

--98. The electronic sourcing system of claim 95 further comprising means for converting the data relating to a selected matching item and its associated vendor to data relating to a different vendor and a corresponding item.--

--99. The electronic sourcing system of claim 95 further comprising means for determining whether a selected matching item is available in inventory.--

--100. The electronic sourcing system of claim 95 further comprising means for determining the applicable price of a selected matching item.--

*19*  
--101. An electronic sourcing system comprising:

a database containing data relating to items associated with at least two vendors maintained so that selected portions of the database may be searched separately;

means for searching for matching items in the selected portions of the database;

means for building a requisition that includes data relating to selected matching items;

means for processing the requisition to generate purchase orders for selected matching items.--

*20*  
--102. The electronic sourcing system of claim 101 wherein the purchase orders include data relating to vendor catalog numbers.--

*19*

*5/16/34*  
--103. The electronic sourcing system of claim 101 further comprising means for converting data relating to a selected matching item and its associated vendor to data relating to a different vendor and a corresponding item.--

--104. An electronic sourcing system of claim 101 wherein the requisition includes matching items from at least two vendors.--

--105. The electronic sourcing system of claim 104 wherein the purchase orders include data relating to the vendor associated with the selected matching item.--

*22*  
--106. The electronic sourcing system of claim 101  
further comprising means for determining whether a selected  
matching item is available in inventory.--

*23*  
--107. The electronic sourcing system of claim 101  
further comprising means for determining the applicable price of  
a selected matching item.--

*MB57*  
--108. A method comprising the steps of:

maintaining at least two vendor product catalogs  
on a database containing data relating to items associated with  
the respective vendors;

selecting the vendor product catalogs to search;

searching for matching items among the selected  
vendor product catalogs;

building a requisition using data relating to  
selected matching items and their associated vendor(s); and

processing the requisition to generate one or more  
purchase orders for the selected matching items.--

*22*  
--109. The method of claim 108 wherein the purchase  
orders include data relating to a vendor catalog number for the  
selected matching items.--

*MB67*  
--110. The method of claim 108 further comprising the  
step of converting data relating to a selected matching item and  
its associated vendor to data relating to a different vendor and  
a corresponding item.--

--111. The method of claim 108 further comprising the step of determining whether a selected matching item is available in inventory.--

--112. The method of claim 108 further comprising the step of determining the applicable price of a selected matching item.--

--113. A method comprising the steps of:

maintaining a database containing data relating to items associated with at least two vendors;

searching for matching items among the data relating to the items;

building a requisition using data relating to selected matching items and their associated vendor(s); and

processing the requisition to generate purchase orders using data relating to the selected matching items and their associated vendor(s).--

--114. The method of claim 113 wherein the purchase orders use data relating to at least two vendors.--

--115. The method of claim 113 wherein the purchase orders use data relating to vendor catalog numbers.--

--116. The method of claim 113 further comprising the step of converting the data relating to a selected matching item and its associated vendor to data relating to a different vendor and a corresponding item.--

--117. The method of claim 113 further comprising the step of determining whether a selected matching item is available in inventory.--

--118. The method of claim 113 further comprising the step of determining the applicable price of a selected matching item.--

--119. A method comprising the steps of:

(2)

maintaining a database containing at least two vendor product catalogs containing data relating to items associated with the respective vendors;

searching for matching items among the vendor product catalogs;

building a requisition that includes a first matching item and a second matching item, each from a different vendor product catalog; and

processing the requisition to generate purchase orders for the first and the second matching items.--

--120. The method of claim 119 wherein a first purchase order uses data relating to the first matching item and a second purchase order uses data relating to the second matching catalog item.--

--121. The method of claim 119 further comprising the step of converting data relating to a selected matching item and its associated vendor to data relating to a different vendor and a corresponding item.--

--122. The method of claim 119 further comprising the step of determining whether a selected matching item is available in inventory.--

--123. The method of claim 119 further comprising the step of determining the applicable price of a selected matching item.--

--124. A method comprising the steps of:

maintaining a database containing data relating to items associated with at least two vendors whereby selected portions of the database may be searched separately;

searching for matching items among the selected portions of the database;

building a requisition using data relating to selected matching items and their associated vendor(s); and

processing the requisition to generate purchase orders using data relating to the selected matching items and their associated vendor(s).--

--125. The method of claim 124 wherein a first purchase order uses data relating to selected matching items from a first vendor and a second purchase order uses data relating to selected matching items from a second vendor.--

--126. The method of claim 124 further comprising the step of converting the data relating to a selected matching item and its associated vendor to data relating to a different vendor and a corresponding item.--

--127. The method of claim 124 further comprising the step of determining whether a selected matching item is available in inventory.--

--128. The method of claim 124 further comprising the step of determining the applicable price of a selected matching item.--

*A5*  
--129. A method comprising the steps of:

maintaining a database containing data relating to items associated with at least two vendors whereby selected portions of the database may be searched separately;

searching for matching items in the selected portions of the database;

building a requisition that includes selected matching items;

processing the requisition to generate purchase orders for selected matching items.--

#### REMARKS

Applicants have withdrawn claims 1 through 78 and submitted new claims 79 through 129 which more clearly define the claimed invention. Applicants have amended the claims using the following terminology: "matching items" are the search results (see e.g., specification at page 5, lines 11-24); "selected matching items" are requisition items (see e.g., specification at page 5, lines 11-24); "associated vendor" is the vendor or source (e.g., different warehouses operated by one vendor) associated with a selected matching item (see e.g., specification at page 8, lines 25 through page 9, line 6); "selected vendor catalogs" are the catalogs, subcatalogs or portions of the database to be searched (see e.g., specification at page 19, lines 15-19); and